

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mark Henry SHIPTON, Robert Walker BROOMFIELD

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: November 15, 2001

Docket No.: 111129

For: NICKEL ALLOY COMPOSITION

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace claims 4-5, 11 and 14 as follows:

4. (Amended) A nickel alloy composition as claimed in claim 1, further including one or more element selected from up to about 5 wt% W, up to about 5 wt% Pt, about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% La, and about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% Y.
5. (Amended) A nickel alloy composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition consists essentially of Cr, Al, Co, Ta, Re, Hf, C, Si, B and optionally one or more element selected from up to about 5 wt% W, up to about 5 wt% Pt, about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% La, and about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% Y, the balance being nickel.
11. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the application of the nickel alloy composition is carried out by a laser cladding or weld deposition process.

09987683-11504  
TOSTT 09987683

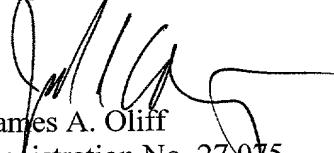
14. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the blade tip comprises a squealer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 4-5, 11 and 14 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/cmm

Attachment: Appendix

Date: November 15, 2001

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--

## APPENDIX

## Changes to Claims:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

4. (Amended) A nickel alloy composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, further including one or more element selected from up to about 5 wt% W, up to about 5 wt% Pt, about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% La, and about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% Y.
5. (Amended) A nickel alloy composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~, wherein the composition consists essentially of Cr, Al, Co, Ta, Re, Hf, C, Si, B and optionally one or more element selected from up to about 5 wt% W, up to about 5 wt% Pt, about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% La, and about 0.003 to about 0.008 wt% Y ~~of W, Pt, La and Y, in the amounts stated in the said preceding claim,~~ the balance being nickel.
11. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~, wherein the application of the nickel alloy composition is carried out by a laser cladding or weld deposition process.
14. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein the blade tip comprises a squealer.